

Amendment and Response Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 - Expedited Examining Procedure

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Serial No.: 09/866,307

Confirmation No.: 4705

Filed: May 25, 2001

For: DNA MOLECULES AND PROTEIN DISPLAYING IMPROVED TRIAZINE COMPOUND DEGRADING ABILITY

### Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified application:

1-35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently amended) A method for treating a sample comprising an *s*-triazine-containing compound comprising the step of:

adding a composition to a sample comprising an *s*-triazine-containing compound,

wherein the composition comprises a protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:5, 6, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26 encoded by a nucleic acid sequence having at least 95% homology to the sequence beginning at position 236 and ending at position 1655 of SEQ ID NO:1;

~~wherein there is at least one amino acid change in the protein encoded by the nucleic acid sequence as compared with SEQ ID NO:2; and~~

~~wherein the protein has an altered catalytic activity as compared to the protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;~~

~~wherein an altered catalytic activity is selected from the group consisting of altered catalytic rate as quantified by  $k_{cat}$  and  $K_M$ ; altered substrate range; altered substrate preference; altered activity in aqueous solutions; altered stability in solvents; altered active temperature range; altered salt concentrations for enzymatic activity; altered pH for enzymatic activity; and improved activity in a soil environment.~~

37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 36 wherein the composition comprises bacteria expressing the protein.

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38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 36 wherein the *s*-triazine -containing compound is 2-chloro-4-(ethylamino)-6-(isopropylamino)-1,3,5-triazine.
39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 36 wherein the *s*-triazine-containing compound is 2-chloro-4-(ethylamino)-6-(tertiary butyl-amino)-1,3,5-triazine.
40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 36 wherein the *s*-triazine containing compound is (2,4,6-triamino-*s*-triazine).
41. (Canceled)
42. (Currently amended) The method of claim 36 wherein the sample is a water or ~~spoilt~~ soil sample.
- 43-50. (Canceled)